

**MEETING MINUTES, FORMER NANSEMOND ORDNANCE DEPOT (FNOD)
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)**

To: Restoration Advisory Board members, Interested Parties
 From: Sandra Chaloux, CEC, Inc.
 Ken Hafner, U.S. Army Corps Project Manager and RAB Co-Chair
 Re: Minutes of February 6, 2001 RAB Meeting

RAB Members Present: Fred Bright Bruce Johnson Thomas Decker Dave Taylor Bea Rogers Dave Saunders Tim Fink Tom O'Grady Jim Bennett Sue Bulbulkaya Rob Thomson Keri Robertson Ken Hafner RAB Members Absent: Don Perry Cherie Walton Ed Wallingford Steve Cline	Affiliation: Nansemond Indian Tribe Citizen – Respass Beach/Holly Acres Citizen – Burbage Grant Suffolk Fire Department RAB Co-Chair Citizen – Bennetts Creek Tidewater Community College (TCC) City of Suffolk Dominion Lands VDEQ EPA USACE, Norfolk USACE, Norfolk – Govt Co-Chair Continental Properties Reactives Management Corporation VDOT GE
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7:15 p.m. **Introduction and Welcome/Call to Order** (*Sandra Chaloux – CEC*)
 The meeting was called to order and RAB members and guests introduced themselves.
 No corrections were made to the December 5 meeting minutes.

7:20 p.m. **Corps Project Update** (*Keri Robertson – USACE*)

James River Beachfront
 Keri told the RAB that a meeting was held on site that morning with the Corps, VDOT, and Corps' contractors to explore ways to join forces in the revetment construction to hopefully minimize the effects of erosion on the construction process. VDOT has already seen some erosion effects on their revetment efforts. Hopefully, the Corps and VDOT will be able to work together to produce a stronger end result.

Beachfront Work Plans
 Plexus, a Corps contractor, is currently working on the work plans for the James and Nansemond River beachfronts. Tim Thomson, the Corps archaeologist, has a draft agreement to cover the James River beachfront work for historic preservation act requirements. This will allow the work to move forward faster. The plans are to remove

the human remains once the tribe has approved the process and the state permit for removal is obtained. Basically, the work will start at the beachfront by April. The work will be visible from the I-664 Bridge. The purpose of the work is to cleanup the debris on the beachfront and stabilize the shoreline. She estimated that it would take nine weeks to complete once started.

Ordnance Work

Ordnance work is ongoing on the GE land, also known as the kick-out area. UXB, a Corps contractor, has completed 26 grids, 9 of which have been checked for quality control by the Corps and finalized. There are a total of 144 grids in the area that UXB has worked in. Each grid covers a 100-by-100-foot area. UXB is continuing to work around the Continental Properties construction, and is looking into working on Saturday and Sunday to decrease the possible danger. UXB has removed 2 transformers and 14 drums of soil from the park/Walner Drive area. The soil from the spill area was sampled last week and the results are not back yet.

Pesticide Drum Area

The last drum containing the rinse water from the pesticide drum area was taken off site.

Site Management Plan (SMP)

The SMP is now final. Copies will be available for interested parties. This will hopefully be the most concise place to look for information on the project. Keri passed out a map that is contained in the SMP. The map showed an aerial photograph of the site, which highlights the areas of concern for the project.

EPA Document

EPA has issued a revised site-screening process document. The document will help to provide a uniform approach to each part of the site and the Corps hopes to start using this information site-wide.

Work Plans

The Corps has received EPA's comments from the background sampling program report. The draft was issued to regulators in November. The Corps will be addressing these comments. The draft work plan for the James River work will go out after the comments are addressed. The draft work plan is in the works for the Nansemond River work. Once the work plans are final, they will be available to the public. A public notice will be published when they are available.

The work plan for the cleanup (removal of the tires and paint cans) of the Track K Dump is also in the works. The work plan will be going out for review, and then later available for public comment.

Institutional Control Work Group

Keri asked anyone involved in the Institutional Control Work Group to please return their questionnaire to SAIC or her. The Corps is planning on holding another meeting of the work group possibly in the beginning of March. She will e-mail the group with further details.

Public Affairs Work Group

The Corps has established a Public Affairs Work Group. The group will include Diana Bailey, the new public affairs officer for the Corps and key public information contacts

for the stakeholders at the site. The first meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, February 7. The group is going to work on outreach efforts such as increasing the newsletter distribution to quarterly, to be more aggressive with opportunities for news releases, to develop a speakers bureau for local groups to utilize, to look into web page options, and to review and maintain the information repository.

Questions from the RAB

Thomas Decker asked about the results from the pesticide drums. Keri said the rinse water from the drums had low levels of pesticide, but it was not classified as hazardous waste. The soil under the drums was also sampled. It contained some pesticides. She said that the Corps needs to further develop its sampling plan so that it can determine how much sampling and delineation is needed.

Tom O'Grady asked if Keri had the list of new Areas of Concern (AOCs) that was requested by the RAB. She said that she did not have a list, however the new AOCs are contained in the new Site Management Plan (SMP). Ken Hafner said that most of the new AOCs are on college property. TCC and the Corps are currently working to prioritize these items. Keri described the five new AOCs including the power plant, steam plant, water plant, chemistry lab/photo lab/science building, officer and enlisted pools due to chlorination from the equipment, labs near the wastewater treatment plant by the Nansemond River beachfront (two buildings), and possible basements of buildings. After site screening, these areas will either be dealt with and remediated or taken off of the list.

Tom requested that completed areas be addressed differently on maps than areas that are still of concern.

Bea Rogers asked if there are any areas of concern on campus that are covered by parking areas or concrete that need remediation. Keri said "no".

Thomas asked about the area behind the GE building where there has been a solvent cleanup. Rob Thomson, EPA, said that GE had started the cleanup voluntarily and that GE has an agreement with the state. The EPA will test water from the area. Rob said that maybe GE could provide an update at the next meeting.

8:00 p.m.

VMASC Web Site Presentation (*Lee Belfore, III – VMASC*)

Lee Belfore (VMASC) demonstrated a draft project web site. He said that the proposed project web site would use technology to help visualize the cleanup in progress, provide internet accessible information, collaborate the work efforts of the various agencies and contractors, and disseminate information faster. His proposed site would use GIS maps, and could also use things like old maps of the site. He determined there to be two types of users for the site. The first type would be the general public, and the second type would be the geographically displaced. He showed a working model of the site. It included a virtual reality type combination of the GIS aerial photographs of the site, with various tools and views. It was able to show and highlight specifics – such as areas of concerns (AOCs), look at combinations of different layers of the map, and view the map through different levels – ground and air. Anyone with a web browser and a plug-in software that can be downloaded for free can view the site.

Comments

Fred Boecher, of the U.S. Army Environmental Center, made a recommendation to maintain the site outside of the Corps arena to prevent problems with firewalls. The web page would take approximately 5 to 10 minutes to download through a dial-up connection. The computer that was actually viewing the web page would be required to do the work and not the server. The speed of viewing the site would depend on the speed of the computer opening the site.

Ken asked the RAB for feedback on the value of a web site like this for the community. He asked if there would be enough use to justify the cost of the site. Bea said that it was important to her to know how the cost of the website would affect funding for other aspects of the project.

Pat Genzler, of Virginia Community College Systems (VCCS), said that having a web site is a very good idea. He would also like to see an online Site Management Plan (SMP) and a downloadable map. He questioned the utility of virtual reality and simulation. He asked if the web site would show status and Areas of Concerns (AOCs). He said that the web site should be primarily used for disseminating information.

A citizen said that all the community is going to want is general information.

Jim Bennett (Dominion Lands) concurred with Pat.

Rick Aiken asked for the GIS technology not to be discounted. This technology could be used to associate AOCs with a list of information about that area linked to its geographic location.

Another citizen recommend that a plain map could be used in the same fashion. He would like to see things like frequently asked questions and a contact e-mail address for questions. He would not want to wait ten minutes for the site to download.

Another person said that if the engineers need to use this site, to create the site and open the site to the public. He also said that if the engineers do not need this site, that a plain web site should be created.

Dave Taylor reminded the RAB that at this time last year they were begging for a map. He said that although the RAB is now being presented with this high tech resource, that they shouldn't totally discount it. A web site could be used as a tool to direct the inquisitive public to and provide the type of information and visuals that the RAB has begged for years to get. Dave noted that in the two and a half years that he has been on the board that he has not received a single e-mail. He recommended that a medium between utility/usefulness and cost should be found. He also recommended that whatever type of map is chosen – it should show completed areas.

Fred Bright said to forget the cost for a moment and first try to answer the question - if people are actually going to use a web site. He said that if people are going to use it, then costs should be considered. He did not know if people would know about the project enough to know about the website. He admitted that he did not know about what was going on until "some bones were dug up."

Sue Bulbulkaya asked how frequently the site would be updated. Keri answered that it would be updated, as new information was available, and that if a web site were going to exist it would have to be useful.

Ken asked the board if they would use the site. He said that the site could contain a lot of hard to find data.

Fred Boecher, of the U.S. Army Environmental Center, told the RAB about a simple web site for the Fort Detrick RAB in Maryland.

(<http://www.armymedicine.army.mil/detrick/rab/index.cfm>)

Fred Bright said that the web site should start simple, and include a counter to see if anyone is actually using the site.

The RAB unanimously voted in favor of having a basic project web site.

8:15 p.m.

ATSDR Update (*Barbara Cooper – ATSDR*)

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) is conducting a public health assessment for FNOD. The draft of the health assessment was finished last year. It was sent out the Corps, EPA, and DEQ for comments. Since then ATSDR has looked at those comments. They are going to incorporate those comments and other new data. They are waiting on some of the Remedial Investigations (RI) to be finalized to incorporate results from the new investigations. They are looking at what the possible land uses may be for the properties, such as industrial or residential. They have been addressing some individual health concerns. These concerns are coming in via a phone number that was published in an article in the paper last year.

Comments

A question was asked about the comparison of the health assessment that ATSDR is conducting to a risk assessment, which is also part of the cleanup process. Barbara Cooper said even though there is some overlap between the two types of assessments, that their goals are different. A risk assessment provides information used for developing a cleanup plan. A health assessment looks at how a site affects human health.

ATSDR generally gives recommendations to the regulators and then both parties negotiate the solution. The regulators and ATSDR review what sources they used to draw their conclusions and decide which sources take precedence.

RAB members wanted to know when to expect the public health assessment. They asked for some sort of preliminary report that shows trends or preliminary conclusions. Thomas Decker said that he did not feel comfortable buying a property right next to the site unless he had results to review.

Bea reminded the RAB that certain requirements, including the ATSDR health assessment, have only been required since FNOD became a superfund site in July 1999. Before this date, there were little, if none of the requirements that there are now.

Thomas said that even with his background, he finds the results and data from the prior environmental studies hard to figure out.

Bea stated that results of the studies have been available over time. She provided the example of the well testing that was done to the east of Streeter Creek even before FNOD became a superfund site. Two community members that reside in that area were unaware of the testing. A community member requested more information about the previous well testing in Respass Beach area. Keri will research and report more on the well testing at the next meeting.

Thomas said that he is concerned about the standards of today versus the standards of science in the future.

Bea said that some things on the site are naturally occurring and cannot be labeled as “put here by man.” She gave the example that there is a naturally high content of fluoride in the water. She said that how you look at levels is a personal preference.

8:45 p.m.

RAB New Business

Sandra reported that Ted Sherman of Continental Properties accepted the invitation to join the RAB. The board voted unanimously to make him a member of the board. CEC will add his contact information to the RAB contact list.

8:50 p.m.

Public Comment/Question and Answer Period

Scott Emry asked for an update about the report of items found in the water near I-664.

Ken said that the Huntsville District of the Corps and UXB are currently working on the site. They are going to bring up whatever is out there. One of the problems is lack of visibility and the fact that they will not be able to tell what it is until they bring it up. The Corps went to the Navy initially for assistance, but since the item in questions is so close to FNOD, the Navy decided to let the Corps deal with it. Next the Corps went to Huntsville, the center for ordnance expertise, to ask for help. As of right now, Huntsville is going to bring up the item and the Navy, the Corps, and TCC are creating a contingency plan. This is because once the item is brought up from under the water it has to be placed or detonated somewhere. In a matter of weeks, the Corps’ dive team will be ready. It is just a matter of coordinating the different teams before the item can actually be picked up.

Tom asked if they could possible take the item over to Craney Island. The item is 12,000 feet out from shore and about 1,000 feet from the bridge. RAB members said that the item might be something that had fallen or pushed off of a truck, train, or ship.

Ken said that there was one other question from the last RAB that he wanted to address. It was in reference to why the cleanup for pits 12 and 18 (on the TCC soccer field) had taken so long. He said that the cleanup was delayed because the Corps was waiting on the approval of the safety plan. It is his understanding that the plan was submitted and they are hoping by March there should be crews out there to cleanup both of those pits. There is coordination with TCC to start the cleanup during the college’s break simply to make the process easier by having less people around. Neither of the pits are very big, but we do not know exactly what is going to be found until digging starts. Teresa Cummings, of the Elizabeth Soccer Club, asked to be informed of the schedule of the removal so that the team can plan their season.

8:45 p.m.

Establish Action Items/Set Agenda and Date for Next RAB Meeting

Action Items

- CEC - Update the RAB contact list - Add Ted Sherman
- RAB/Public - Forward comments about the fact sheets / newsletter to Sandra or Diana
- Keri - Forward information about the Institutional Control Work Group to ATSDR
- Keri - Send Site Management Plan to RAB members
- Diana - Create a basic web site
- Keri - Create a list of new Areas of Concerns (AOCs)

The next RAB meeting was set for April 3, 2001. The **agenda items** for the next RAB meeting include the following:

- Institutional Control Work Group progress update
- Public Affairs Work Group progress update
- ATSDR update (if needed)
- Budget/timeline
- Corps update
- Web site update
- Well sampling update/review of findings
- Site Management Plan/AOCs update

9:10 p.m.

Meeting adjourned

Guests Present:	Affiliation:
Brett Waller	VDOT
Dewey Stinson	AMSEC, LLC
George Mears	USACE, Norfolk District
Fred Slade	Citizen
Fred Boechek	U.S. Army Environmental Center
Pat Genzler	Virginia Community College System (VCCS)
Lee Belfore	ODU/VMASC
Gary Colvin	City of Suffolk
David Hauer	Citizen
Barbara Cooper	ATSDR
Dale Miller	UXB International
John Bryzenski	USACE, Baltimore District
Ray Livermore	USACE, Baltimore District
David Pohl	Weston
John Gerhard	Weston
Tim Thompson	USACE, Norfolk District
Joe Ferris	AH Environmental
Teresa Cummings	Elizabeth River Soccer Club
Scott Emry	HRPDC
Henry L. Brandon	Burbage Grant Homes
Harry Wheeler, Jr.	Gannett Fleming
C. H. Lamb	Citizen
Rick Aiken	USACE, Norfolk District
Diana Bailey	USACE, Norfolk District – PAO
Sandra Chaloux	CEC, Inc.
Sarah Donovan	CEC, Inc.